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Volume 12, Number 36

Serving New Jersey's African-American Community Since 1983

June 12 - June 18, 1996

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AFFIRMATIVE ACTION WINS IN NEW ORLEANS

New Orleans—National Rainbow Coalition asks supporters to consider spending the 4th of July weekend at the Essence Music Festival in the New Orleans Superdome, July 4 to 7. Not only will the music be incomparable, and the lectures/empowerment sessions superb, but attending the festival this year will validate the courageous stand taken by Essence publisher Edward Lewis and president Clarence Smith, to save affirmative action.

When Louisiana's new Governor Mike Foster threatened to cancel affirmative action after taking office, Lewis and Smith fought back by threatening to cancel the Essence Music Festival, an event that attracted 150,000 people last year, and generated \$75 million for the local economy. Faced with this decisive response, Gov. Foster quickly modified his affirmative action orders.

In short, African-American economic power was skillfully used to protect our political gains. This deserves our support. Plans should be made to attend for this event by spreading the word through your media and personal networks.

ORANGE SCHOOLS ADOPT UNIFORM DRESS CODE

ORANGE—The educators and parents of the Orange School District, being consistent with its newly adopted statement on "Ecology of Excellence," has adopted a uniform dress code for the upcoming '96-97 school year.

The code will require that all students in the district—K to grade 12—a wear uniforms. District officials should be no shorter than 33 "fingers" above the knees. Boys are unacceptable and cannot be worn by male or female students in school at any time. Sneakers cannot be worn without white socks that may be worn during inclement weather.

'WIPERS ON, LIGHTS ON'

New law requires use of both together

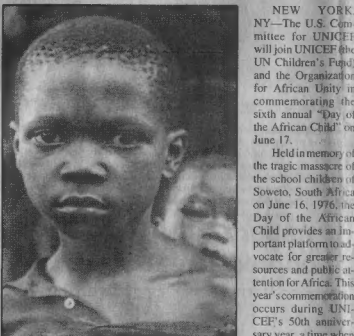
TRENTON—Every motorist knows to turn on their windshield wipers when the weather is bad, yet many motorists are not aware that according to a recently enacted state law headlights should be used with windshield wipers.

Under the continuing need for safety on New Jersey's roadways, Transportation Commissioner Frank J. Wilson has unveiled new road signs reminding drivers that they must use their headlights in conjunction with their windshield wipers regardless of the time of day.

"Using your headlights during inclement daytime weather makes good sense because it improves visibility and better helps motorists determine their proximity to other vehicles on the road," Commissioner Wilson said. "The 'Wipers On, Lights On' law promotes safety not just for New Jersey drivers, but for those motorists passing through our state who may not be aware of our laws."

The New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJ DOT) will be installing 31 signs at highway entrances into the state, including three on the New Jersey Turnpike along the Garden State Parkway and one at the gateway into Newark Airport.

Celebrate Day Of The African Child on June 17



NEW YORK, NY—The U.S. Committee for UNICEF will join UNICEF (the UN Children's Fund) and the Organization for African Unity in commemorating the sixth annual "Day of the African Child" on June 17.

Held in memory of the tragic massacre of the school children of Soweto, South Africa on June 16, 1976, the Day of the African Child provides an important platform to advocate for greater resources and public attention for Africa. This year's commemoration occurs during UNICEF's 50th anniversary year, a time when

the organization is giving special attention to meeting the needs of children in war.

"We have chosen to focus on children in armed conflict because violence continues to pose one of the greatest threats to children in Africa and other parts of the world. Through our education, advocacy, and fundraising initiatives, the U.S. Committee for UNICEF will help to support the many and urgent needs of children in conflict zones," Baker continued.

Carol Bellamy, Executive Director of UNICEF, said, "UNICEF has underlined the importance of five other tasks: caring for unaccompanied children, demobilizing child soldiers, healing the mental wounds of war, restoring schools, and embarking on education for peace."

As in previous years, the U.S. Committee for UNICEF and UNICEF—with the support of religious and civic groups and non-gov-

ernmental organizations—will coordinate a variety of week-long cultural and educational programs culminating in a reception on the evening of June 17.

Activities planned for this year's 'Day of the African Child' include a children's educational forum at the United Nations to help educate U.S. school children about Africa's rich cultural heritage.

The U.S. Committee for UNICEF will present its annual "Africa's Future Award" on June 17 to the Honorable Andrew Young, former U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations and Mayor of Atlanta, and Co-Chair of the 1996 Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games.

The award recognizes the achievement of a prominent individual who has demonstrated a strong commitment to African and African-American children and issues. Also being honored is actor, playwright, and director Laurence Fishburne, who will

be appointed a National Ambassador for the U.S. Committee for UNICEF.

Individuals, groups, and businesses are encouraged to support the 'Day of the African Child' by contributing to the U.S. Committee for UNICEF's Africa fund. The U.S. Committee for UNICEF is also accepting donations earmarked for relief efforts in Ethiopia, Ghana, and Uganda.

Another way to support the Day of the African Child is through Olympic Aid - Atlanta, a special initiative between the U.S. Committee for UNICEF and the Atlanta Committee for the Olympic Games designed to raise funds to assist millions of children caught in the crossfire of war.

For more information on how to participate in the 'Day of the African Child' activities or to make a contribution, call 1-800-FOR-KIDS, or contact the U.S. Committee for UNICEF at 212-686-5522.

Martini & Pascrell to square off in House race

By Michael Burton

PATERSON—With the Democrat and Republican contenders already selected, last Tuesday's primary only served as a formality for the U.S. House of Representatives 8th Congressional District seat race. Neither candidate, Republican Rep. Bill Martini nor Democratic challenger William J. Pascrell Jr. faced challenges within their respective parties. However, what some political insiders call "a dogfight" is set to begin.

Both national parties have targeted the seat held by Martini as a seat in a swing district. The seat was previously held by Democrat Herb Kline, who lost a nasty and expensive cam-

paign to Martini in 1994. This year's race promises to be no less expensive and may even set records for dollars spent in a district.

Martini, 49 and a lawyer from Clifton, is one of 74 Republican fresh-

men who helped give the GOP control of the House of Representatives for the first time in 40 years. Martini, in recent weeks, has become a highly visible member of the House, making appearances on several national news programs and gaining press for his vote to increase the minimum wage.

"People have a choice between my record, which is clearly one of independent leadership, and my opponent's record, which is one of a career politician who believes in big government and high taxes," said Martini.

Pascrell, 59 has been an Assemblyman for five years and Paterson Mayor for nine years. Pascrell has continually pointed to Martini as a New Gingrich disciple who has voted on programs that hurt the elderly and children.

"I've been a straightforward, no-nonsense, independent problem solver. The contrast couldn't be clearer between myself and my opponent. I don't have to change with the wind. I like my opponent."

Other county positions that were voted on Tuesday included two seats for the Passaic County Freeholder Board and Passaic County Recorder of Deeds. Both parties faced no challenges on their line with the Democrats putting up Clifton Councilman Peter Eagler and Day Care Center Director Georgia Scott.

Incumbent Charles Delany and Richard Wood, Councilman Walter Davidson will represent the Republican in the November election. For the position of Register of Deeds, Republican Frank Sylvester and Democrat Gerard DiStefano faced no opposition within their parties.

Restoring fathers to their families

by Michael Session

Recognizing the critical problem of "fatherlessness" in the nation, the Cleveland-based Institute Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization has created a remarkably successful approach that brings young black American fathers back to their children and families. Over 2,500 fathers and their families have been served by the institute.

It is a non-profit organization created in 1982 from the vision of its founder and president, Charles A. Ballard. Ballard, in explaining why he started the institute, has spoken eloquently on the devastating effect a father's absence has on his family: "There is something missing in the lives of children who grow up without committed, caring fathers. The potential problems can follow a family for generations. The effects are especially hard on young males. Without that special dimension of guidance a fa-

ther can give, these young men are at risk of becoming fathers too soon themselves. The pressure of having to act responsibly without the proper understanding can be too much for them to handle. As a male who was separated from his father at three and became a father at 17, I can relate to this intimately."

The institute has developed a method that literally changes the lives of absent and non-attentive fathers. Its approach is based on modeling and interventions to encourage young fathers to achieve positive self-esteem. The institute's team interacts with fathers to create environments which allow them to develop thinking that produces an increased quality of life for their children.

Fathers being served by the institute often display high-risk behaviors, however, under the institute's counseling and guidance the father pursues a risk-free lifestyle. Each takes

See RESTORING FATHERS/page 11

A day of remembrance

EAST ORANGE—Despite the coolness in the air and a cloudy overcast, veterans of the armed services and their families had gathered to commemorate those men and women who so gallantly fought and lost their lives for our country. Although the Memorial Day parade was cancelled due to anticipated thunderstorms, an 11 a.m. commemorative service took place in the Municipal Council chambers on May 27.

Mayor Cooper said, "This nation of fighters, soldiers and peace keepers should remember those who wore a badge of honor. They did not call for war but they went to protect America. Let us not forget these soldiers—the ones who have no monument but who died in the fields and never came



Pictured are (l to r) East Orange Mayor Cardell Cooper and Jim Hazel Adjutant of Lewis Gray Chapter #84 DAV Host Post.

See REMEMBERING/page 10



Kelli Puryear, left and J. Todd Phillips, right

East Orange Sister City Committee sends two students to Ghana

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange/Akropomo Sister City Committee and The City of East Orange will send J. Todd Phillips and Kelli S. Puryear to the 1996 Student Exchange Program Fellows. Kelli and J. Todd will spend this summer in Ghana working in various projects including the city supported child, and library, teaching computer skills, and working at the Schools for the Deaf and Blind.

Both from East Orange, Kelli will be a senior this fall at Temple University, in Philadelphia, majoring in Social Administration and minoring in Africology. J. Todd will also be a senior this fall majoring in Computer Science and minoring in Mathematics at Monmouth College in Allentown. Both are members of Elmwood United Presbyterian Church in East Orange.

Both students have been selected for their interest in global community service activities, academic excellence and personal integrity. The City of East Orange and The East Orange/Akropomo Sister City Committee are dedicated to establishing and developing social, educational and cultural experiences between both cities with initiatives that will also assist in addressing local concerns with a global perspective. The East Orange/Akropomo Sister City Committee is dedicated to sharing ideas, cultures and common problems in the spirit of cooperation and world unity.

Programs sponsored by the East Orange/Akropomo Sister City Committee include the support of a medical clinic; a library in association with Books Across Ghana, cultural excursions and the Student Exchange Program.

More than 200,000 stand for children

By Avery Grant

Washington, DC—"We are not estimating the crowd numbers, some one else can do that," said Dennis Smith, director of public relations for the Children's Defense Fund, "but we are just thrilled with the turnout today."

Although experienced media personnel placed the count close to 250,000, organizers of Stand for Children were determined to keep this event out of logistical media mire.

Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund, said she organized the event, exuberantly said, "We will keep in contact with the 3,700 organizations that are working with us, so today was a wonderful start with us standing together." Edelman continued, "We will transcend our differences and affirm what unites us as a people: a loving desire to raise moral, healthy and educated children; a sense of fairness; and a belief that in the richest and most powerful nation on earth no child should be left behind."

In response to the media's dubbing of the event as solely for the underprivileged, minority population, Susybelly Gossett, representing "Our



Marian Wright Edelman, president and founder of the Children's Defense Fund stands amidst a group of youth at the Stand for Children Rally.

Members representing a 1,400-

member Automobile Association of America public school safety patrol contingent from Knoxville, TN, said, "We are just happy that our children could be a part of this great day."

The rally organizers kept their commitment to make the event non-political. East Orange Mayor Cardell about too."

See STANDING FOR CHILDREN/page 10

PEOPLE

Community Calendar

THRU DECEMBER

NEW YORK—Spirit Cruises presents its 1996 Gospel Cruise Series aboard the Spirit of New York and Spirit of New Jersey. For more info call 212-727-7769 or 201-867-6201.

JUNE 7 THRU 23

PITTSBURGH, PA—The 1996 Three Rivers Arts Festival runs with a wide variety of exhibitions, performances, children's programs and crafts market.

THRU AUGUST 30

CRANFORD—Union County College is offering "Fantasy Fridays," a set of one-day computer training seminars from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. For more info call 908-709-7050.

WESTFIELD—The Parents Club of the Westfield Neighborhood Council presents "Changing Faces" a 1st annual Spring Fashion Show and Buffet from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Westfield Y.

EAST ORANGE—East Orange YMCA will host its 1st Annual "Pre-Father's Day Spring Fair" from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. For more info call 201-873-5588 (days) or 201-874-0506 and 201-876-4852 (nights).

NEWARK—New Jersey Coalition of the Million Man March, Inc. and Councilwoman-at-Large Mildred Crump present a New Jersey Million Man March Headquarters Pledge-A-Thon, from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at Lincoln Park, featuring food, music, vendors, talent shows and more. For more info call 201-660-6187 or 201-242-4912.

FREEHOLD—Monmouth County Park System has scheduled a kayak rolling session in the pool at Monmouth Activity Area in Turkey Swamp Park from 4 to 7 p.m. For more info call 908-842-4000.

THRU JULY 21

CLINTON—Hudson County Center presents the 40th National Junied Print Exhibition and the artwork of Valerie Sivill. For more info call 908-735-8415.

THRU JUNE 16

NEW YORK—"Image and Memory," Latin American Photography 1880-1992 at the E Museo del Barrio.

ATLANTIC CITY—The Grand Casino Resort presents a priceless '50s memorabilia display and giveaway.

THRU JUNE 23

EDISON—The Middlesex County College Presidential Art Gallery will present an exhibit featuring the art of Charles A. Godwin in the Presidential Gallery from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

THRU JUNE 30

WATCHUNG—Watching Arts Center presents the lifetime sculpture of Joseph Canger 1 to 4 p.m. weekdays and Saturdays. For more info call 908-753-0190.

THRU AUGUST 4

NEW YORK CITY—"Picturing Paradise: Colonial Photography of Samoa, 1875-1925" exhibition investigating the growth of the concept of an island paradise through early photographs of Samoa and its people at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. For more info call 212-535-7710.

THRU DECEMBER 31

MONTCLAIR—"The Montclair Art Museum's American and Native American collections will be on display in 'Reflecting America: Highlights from the Permanent Collection.' For more info call 201-746-5555.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Womack named president of NJSBA



TRENTON—Leah Womack, a 14-year veteran of the Plainfield Board of Education, was elected president of the New Jersey School Boards Association. Prior to her election, Womack served as NJSBA's vice president for legislation/resolutions. She was also a member and alternate of the Association's Board of Directors for six years. She is a former president of the Union County School Boards Association. In her hometown of Plainfield, Womack has served in numerous community groups, including the Mayor's Task Force for Plainfield Action Services, planning board, budget advisory committee and Community Action, Inc. Womack is employed as an education media specialist for the Newark Public Schools.



Bradley receives honorary degree from JCSC

United States Senator Bill Bradley was recently presented with an honorary doctor of humane letters degree by Jersey City State College at the college's recent undergraduate commencement. Senator Bradley (c) who delivered the commencement address, and Melissa Nicotri, president of the senior class who responded for the graduates, are congratulated by Dr. Carlos Hernandez (l) president of the college and John Moore, chair of the JCSC Board of Trustees.

Asbury Park's Tom Dove honored at retirement party



ASBURY PARK—Thomas Dove (standing) thanks friends for honoring him with a retirement party at the Elks Lodge in Asbury Park. Dove of Red Bank, retired after 28 years with the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission as supervisor and senior investigator in its Newark Regional Office. He served as president of Local 355 of the American Federation of Government Employees, (AFGE) and as administrative assistant to the president of the AFGE Council 216 headquartered in New York City. Dove is to begin working on a special program for youth in the Monmouth County Justice System. Pictured above with Dove, are (l to r) Worshipful Master Jones of the Red Bank Elks Lodge, Pepper Riley, emcee and U.S. congressional staffer, and State Assemblyman Thomas S. Smith.

Local science teachers awarded

NEWARK—Twenty-five Newark school teachers who made a commitment to improving science education in the classroom were recently rewarded for their efforts at the first New Jersey Institute of Technology Elementary Science Outreach Program Teacher Graduation on Wednesday, May 29.

The teachers were presented with certificates for successfully completing NJIT's Outreach Program. The goal of the Outreach Program, run by NJIT's Center for Pre-College Programs, is to enhance the teaching of hands-on science in Newark's kindergarten through eighth grade classrooms by providing teachers with in-classroom assistance and training. Twenty Newark schools are currently participating in the program and approximately 27 teachers enroll each semester for up to four semesters. There are eight NJIT science and engineering graduate students who participate, and each one is assigned to four teachers.

Below is a list of the teachers who participated in the program and their respective schools.

Katrina Bryant grades 6 through 8, 13th Ave. School; Rosalee Dixon,



Johnson honored by American Physical Society

NEWARK—Anthony M. Johnson, chair of the Federal Physics Department of NJIT was selected by the American Physical Society (APS) as the 1996 recipient of the prestigious Edward A. Bouchet and an APS Fellow in the division of Laser Science. "It is a very prestigious honor to be recognized by the APS for my research, and my commitment to encouraging women and minorities to pursue science," said Johnson, a resident of Freehold Township. The Edward A. Bouchet Award was presented to Johnson for his "pioneering research leadership in the national scientific community, and for his many efforts to attract minorities to careers in science and engineering."

Pruitt gets honorary degree from SUNY

Dr. George E. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, received the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters from SUNY Empire State College. Dr. Pruitt was named for his honor in recognition of his distinguished leadership in innovative higher education at the national level. He received his B.S. and M.S., degrees from Illinois State University and the Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Cincinnati. He began his higher education career in 1968 as an instructor at Illinois State. Subsequently he served as dean of students at Towson State University in Towson, Md., and held three vice presidencies at Morgan State University, Tennessee State University and with the Council for Adult and Experimental Learning—before accepting the presidency at Thomas Edison in 1982.



Dr. George E. Pruitt, president of Thomas Edison State College, received the honorary degree Doctor of Humane Letters from SUNY Empire State College. Dr. Pruitt was named for his honor in recognition of his distinguished leadership in innovative higher education at the national level. He received his B.S. and M.S., degrees from Illinois State University and the Ph.D. in higher education administration from the University of Cincinnati. He began his higher education career in 1968 as an instructor at Illinois State. Subsequently he served as dean of students at Towson State University in Towson, Md., and held three vice presidencies at Morgan State University, Tennessee State University and with the Council for Adult and Experimental Learning—before accepting the presidency at Thomas Edison in 1982.

Volunteers needed

PLAINFIELD—How would you like to become a friend and mentor to someone who really needs one? The Arc of Union County's Citizen Advocacy Program is looking for volunteers from the community to work one-on-one with individuals who have developmental disabilities.

Special skills are not needed. Duties would include talking on the telephone, walking in the park, going to the movies or just "hanging out" with an individual from one of the agency's residential or vocational programs. Volunteers will be matched with a compatible person and receive basic orientation from Lois Goldberg, the coordinator of this special program.

For additional information on the program call Lois Goldberg at 908-754-7658.

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Fathers'
Day

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*** Based on the current prime rate of 8.25% + 1% margin.

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Highway 9 and Atlantic Road

SPRING LAKE HEIGHTS:

Highway 9 and Atlantic Road

TOWNSHIP:

Highway 9 and Atlantic Road

UNION:

Highway 9 and Atlantic Road

WESTFIELD:

Highway 9 and Atlantic Road

YONKERS:

Highway 9 and Atlantic Road

A day at the races with Bill McCreary



FREEHOLD—Bill McCreary of FOX TV Channel 5 and Debbie Little, New York Post Horse Racing writer were participants in the Fifth Annual McCreary Challenge Race at the Freehold Raceway. The event is a public relations attraction and provides an opportunity for media personnel who report on racing to actually "complete" in a trotter race. McCreary, who owns race horses that run at Monticello (N.Y.) finished "out of the money." Neil Baker of NBC-TV was the winner.

NATO N

National News at a Glance

PASTORS MEET ABOUT BOMBED BLACK CHURCHES

The National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA recently held a meeting in Washington, D.C. with the pastors of churches that have been bombed. A NCC-led team has documented 53 churches burned and four vandalized since January 1980 (with 23 of 53 burned since last January). Most of the churches are Southern African-American congregations. Partners with the NCC are the New York-based Center for Constitutional Rights, a public interest law group, and the Atlanta-based Center for Democratic Renewal, a leader in the monitoring of white supremacist activity. Since last March, NCC-led teams have visited many of the bombed churches across the South, including Tennessee, Georgia, South Carolina, Arkansas, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana.—WASHINGTON, DC

OSSIE DAVIS SPEAKS AT BLACK PATRIOTS' EVENT

Corporate America and the entertainment industry need to support Black Patriots Memorial, recently said Ossie Davis. "It's our obligation," he said. "Businesses across America—including the entertainment industry—have benefited from the sacrifices made by those who fought to make our nation free. It's only right that the most financially capable do their part to honor their memory." Davis made his comments at a Memorial Day salute to the 5,000 African-American heroes of the Revolutionary War. The event was sponsored by the Black Patriots Foundation, a group fundraising for a black soldier memorial. Davis, a World War I veteran, is appearing in television and radio Public Service Announcements in an attempt to fundraise for the memorial. Call 1-800-888-9811

WATTS UNVEILS 'CONSERVATIVE' BLUEPRINT FOR ASSISTING NEEDY

U.S. Rep. J.C. Watts (R-Okla.) joined other lawmakers and former Housing Secretary Jack Kemp recently in announcing a legislative blueprint for helping poor rural and urban communities. It includes school choice and capital gains tax cuts for businesses who would want to invest in poor areas. "We think this is an opportunity to change America," said Watts, a vocal critic of affirmative action and other liberal programs created for minorities during the 1960s. The proposed legislative package was created by Watts and Rep. Jim Talent (R-Mo.).—WASHINGTON, DC

SCHOOL INVITES, THEN DISINVITES, THOMAS

At presstime, school board officials in Prince George's County, Md., met with a majority black middle class population, had not yet decided whether to re-invite Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas to speak at an awards ceremony at the Thomas Patten School for the Performing Arts. Thomas was disinvited after a boycott was threatened by three black school board members. The three officials said Thomas's votes against affirmative action and his comments on the Supreme Court made him a bad choice for a speaker. The Associated Press reports that Thomas has not said he would speak if invited again.—MARYLAND

BLACK NEWSPAPER PUBLISHER RECEIVES POSTHUMOUS AWARD

John Mitchell Jr., the founding journalist who founded The Richmond Planet in 1883 (and later became The Richmond Afro-American), was recently named the 1996 recipient of the George Mason Award. The award is given by the Richmond, Va. Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. As editor, Mitchell worked diligently to expose violent crimes against blacks. He often wrote detailed accounts of lynching and other violent crimes against his race. After his death in 1928, the Afro-American Co. brought the paper, renaming it The Richmond Afro-American Planet. The paper ceased publishing last February.—RICHMOND, VA

Pastors' fast for Cuba successful

by Askia Muhammad

WASHINGTON—Republican Presidential candidate Bob Dole easily made headlines in Miami recently by promising to "bring Fidel Castro down and end his reign of terror." Less than a week later, a black Baptist preacher and two companions ended a vigil in near obscurity, literally in the shadow of the US Capitol, claiming victory in their effort to help Mr. Castro's island nation.

At midnight, Saturday, May 25 (9 p.m. Pacific Time May 24), the Rev. Lucius Walker, Jr., leader of Pastors for Peace (PPP), Lisa Valanti and Jim Clifford savored a nice broth at a special service of thanksgiving surrounded by religious leaders, congressional staff aides, and members of their support team.

At that moment 374 computers destined for Cuban hospitals and health clinics were being released to the custody of the General Board of Church and Society (UCC) at a private storage facility maintained by the U.S. Customs Agency in San Diego.

"We are thankful to God and to the hundreds of thousands of supporters who never gave up the struggle to free the computers," Rev. Walker said as he ended his fast. The hunger strike had begun February 21, to protest the seizure of 397 outmoded and obsolete—by U.S. standards "286" and "XT" computers by Customs officials in late January.

"Together we have made an effort to appeal to the soul and integrity of our nation," he said. "Our efforts have not been in vain, but much work remains."

The Rev. noted that the new broad



Pictured are Rev. Lucius Walker of NY, Jim Clifford, Lisa Valanti of Pittsburgh, Bill Hill of Tucson, Emilie Milne aide to Congressman Charles Rangel and Jim Mellor of NY making a victory toast for their success in the "Fast for Life."

coalition which has grown around the Fast will keep working to send these computers on to Cuba. And as the coalition grows.

"The release of these computers was made possible by the active support of hundreds of thousands of people of conscience in all parts of the U.S.," the Rev. Walker said, expressing "special gratitude for the committed work of Congressman Charles A. Rangel (D-NY), whose tireless advocacy helped seal this victory."

Just one week earlier, 23 other computers were released. All of the first machines released are of Canadian origin and are stored in Mexico in preparation for shipment to Cuba.

Treasury Department and Customs officials had insisted that PPP or some other group apply for and receive an export license, even if the Rev. Walker and his group refused to

do so. The agreement for their release calls for a coalition of national church partners to store the computers in the U.S. pending completion of arrangements to transfer them to Cuba without requesting a license. The coalition includes six national mainline denominations and the National Council of Churches.

In a May 17 letter to Rep. Rangel, who mediated the dialogue between PPP and the government, Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin expressed concern for the welfare of those participating in the fast and said that within the existing laws, there are "procedural avenues" available for the Rev. Walker to achieve his goals, and end the fast.

"People have to make a decision whether or not they will be complicit

See PASTORS' FAST/ page 10

\$4 million in scholarships given to high school students



Defense attorney Cochran (l) congratulates Brian Pitt of Benjamin Banneker Academic High School in Washington, DC and Nicole Massey of Richard Montgomery High in Rockville, MD, on receiving their scholarships. Photo by Scott Macley.

WASHINGTON, DC—Syndicated columnist Carl T. Rowan's Project Excellence Foundation recently awarded \$4 million in college scholarships to 106 African-American high school graduates in one of the most extraordinary programs in the country. This was the Ninth Annual Project Excellence Scholarship Awards Dinner hosted by Rowan.

He was joined by attorney Johnnie Cochran Jr. LaSalle LeFall, in presenting the awards to the students with the highest academic records.

"I was startled, when 9 years ago we gave \$208,000 to 52 college-bound black youngsters. I never

dreamed that we could in just one city gather enough support to give \$3.8 million to 106 black youngsters in one evening," stated Rowan.

Twenty-eight students received four-year scholarships ranging from \$60,000 to \$125,000 in value. There were 24 scholarships of \$10,000, 55 \$4,000 scholarships, and one \$15,000 grant.

Students are nominated for Project Excellence scholarships by their high schools, based on their academic achievements and abilities to communicate. A panel of judges made the final selections.

Steve Newby, who provided \$50,000 in scholarships, told

See SCHOLARSHIPS/ page 10

Frank Raines nominated as director of OMB



WASHINGTON, D.C.—Franklin D. Raines has been nominated by President Clinton as Director of the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

Raines is currently Vice Chairman of Fannie Mae (Federal National Mortgage Association). Upon Senate confirmation he will be the first black to hold that post.

"He knows the world of finance, he respects the bottom line. He also understands...the very real, human impact the budget has on the American people, and the opportunities they will or will not have to make the most of their own lives. So I am very proud to ask him to join our team," said President Clinton.

As vice chairman for Fannie Mae, Raines who joined the Association in 1991 is in charge of legal, credit, policy, finance and corporate development functions. Raines received his B.A. in government from Harvard College and J.D. from Harvard Law School. He also attended Magdalen College, Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar.

"It is a great honor for me to have the opportunity to assist the President and Vice President in carrying out the very important work that they have been carrying out for the last three years, and that is to establish a fiscal policy that makes sense for this country and for the world," Raines stated.

Juneteenth celebrations set for San Antonio

SAN ANTONIO—Food, festivities, family picnics and live music will mark the commemoration of one of the most important days in Texas' black history during the annual Juneteenth celebration, June 14 through 22. City-wide celebrations and observances honor the date (June 19th) that Texas slaves received word of the Emancipation Proclamation.

On June 14, the San Antonio Zulu Association will host its Juneteenth Picnic at Camargo Park. The day-long event will include barbecue dinners, live gospel and blues music, guest speakers and a host of other special activities. On June 16, the Mississippi Mass Choir will perform at the Trinity University's Laurie Auditorium. For additional information call 210-637-4328.

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EDITORIAL

Stand for the children and the future

On June 1 in Washington, DC thousands of people, from parents and grandparents to community and religious leaders gathered at the "Stand for Children" rally to show their support for the Children's Defense Fund, the Black Community Crusade for Children, the children and the future.

Individuals and organizations came together for a day of family and community renewal, celebration and commitment. A day for all Americans to transcend the differences and affirm what unites them as people—a loving desire to raise moral, healthy and educated children.

While a day to celebrate and show support is pleasant, we must not forget that to raise a child is a lifetime project. From the time that child is conceived the planning and preparing, teaching and caring to see that the child is brought up with every necessary measure as an individual, a brother.

Many times we, as adults, get so caught up in the hectic day-to-day of life that we neglect to do everything possible for our children, for all children. We must learn and realize that the care and upbringing should go along with, side-by-side the duties of work, home and of living.

Marian Wright Edelman, president of the Children's Defense Fund, a leader of the Black Community Crusade for Children and organizer of the "Stand for Children" rally put it best, "As tough as times are and as hard as families are struggling for children, each and every one of us can do better. To do better, whether you have a child or not, each and every single one of us must take the momentum inspired by this event and truly stand for the children, becoming involved in some facet that will improve and enrich their lives and their world. Becoming a part of the many organizations for children, taking an active part in your local school system, or starting something new—these are just a small part of what we can do for the children.

We must always remember that every child with us, every child are our future, if we do not offer them the best to work with so that they can become the best, what sort of future do we have to look forward to?

PASTORS' WORD

by Rev. Reginald T. Jackson
& Raiford S. Wheeler

This is the season where there is political debate, rhetoric and posturing. Candidates and parties will be trying to position themselves to win over swinging or independent voters. Just recently, we heard of a primary election where candidates sought to portray opponents as out of touch, soft on crime and big spenders.

This fall we will be bombarded with campaigning assembled candidates of being liberal, conservative, right wing and extreme. There will be a big push to both register and get out the black vote. It is critically important that we, too much is riding on it. But as important as registering and voting is, there is something else that is just as critical, in fact more critical to the African-American community and that is the crisis facing our children. June 2 is Children's Day, perhaps the least recognized and observed day in this nation. This alone may explain in part why our children are in crisis.

They are our most valuable and precious resource, yet far too often

they are treated like they are our least valuable resource. They are in crisis and it is not their fault, they are victims of the failures of their parents and communities, to do what our parents and grandparents did for us. They loved us, raised us and taught us. We had little choice but to do something with our lives.

Dr. Jovanza Kunjufic in his latest book, "Restoring The Village, Values and Commitment: Solutions for the Black Family," points out some painful and alarming realities about our children and their futures. He points out that the future generation of African American youth may not exceed their parents in academic achievement.

During slavery African Americans were whipped and beaten if they were caught reading. But their desire to read was so great that they were willing to suffer the consequences and continued to read by candle light. In 1930, slightly more than 60 years after chattel slavery ended, 20 percent of African Americans were illiterate. In 1990, with all the open doors, opportunities and advantages that slaves, their grandparents, and parents didn't have, 44 percent of African Americans were functionally

illiterate.

How could this possibly happen? Could it be that we have failed our children? Look at African-American youth. Parents have given them telephones in their rooms, VCRs, televisions, expensive jackets and sneakers. We have given them things, but no orientation and time. Our educational system has failed them with social promotions, not requiring them to do their best, but allowing them to get by.

Churches have also failed our children by not ministering to the needs of single parents, helping them to be homemakers and raise their children. But more importantly, by not lifting up values and standards that are spiritual and moral and not being an extended family to our children.

Unfortunately, this is also the first

generation of African-American youth whose elders are afraid of them. Many of our youth are addicted to drugs or alcohol and have to support their habit by lying, stealing, assaulting or even killing. Seniors and even parents, who carried some of their children in their womb are scared of them.

This crisis, if it is not ended, must be addressed and addressed now. Often we hear quoted the proverb, "It takes a whole village to raise a child." The village has failed our children and must change.

Perhaps we need to look at the proverb more closely. It says a whole village, that means every component of the village working together. Historically God was at the heart of the village. Our children will become blessed and fruitful, only when this part of history repeats itself.

Summer time is reading time

by Richard W. Riley
U.S. Secretary of Education

Soon, kids all over America will be out of school doors, racing toward summer fun. They'll leave their desks and classrooms behind. But will they also leave their learning behind? Unfortunately, many will.

Studies show that over the summer, students can lose up to three-fourths of the reading and writing skills they acquired during the school year. The fact of the matter is, when it comes to reading and writing skills, you either use them or lose them.

That's why it's so important to keep students reading over the summer months, even for only 30 minutes a day. Kids can still read and have plenty of time for playing ball, swimming, and other summer activities.

Good reading habits, like all other educational activities, begin in the home. So many message to parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, and other adults who are responsible for raising a child this is. Get involved this summer! Here are some tips:

- Read to your young children and share books with your older children.
- Make place for newspapers, magazines, and books in your home. Read the important news stories of the day with your children, or help them page through the family section. Let your children lead the way. Ask them to pick out something that interests them. But just read! And make sure your children see you read.

- Take your children to the library and make sure they get a card. Show them that there are other places in the world to visit besides the video arcade and the mall.
- Ask your children to visit the Internet. If you know that's still older, but when kids watch six, seven hours a day, we've got to say as parents, "Enough's enough—close the set and open a book!"

- Ask your children to write relatives and friends. If you have access to a computer, have them send regular e-mail messages, because in this day and age, literacy is the key to success.

- Participate in READ*WRITE*NOW!, the summer reading initiative sponsored by the National Partnership for Family Involvement in Education.

- READ*WRITE*NOW! encourages children to practice their reading and writing for at least 30 minutes a day, five days a week, for eight weeks throughout June, July, and August. Children also learn with a learning partner who provides extra guidance at least once a week for 30 minutes. A learning partner can be a parent, grandparent, older sibling, friend, or any caring member of the community (like you!).

Children are also encouraged to get and use a library card and learn at least one new word every day. And when they've completed their eight weeks of learning, they can get a free personal pan pizza from Pizza Hut as a special reward.

The U.S. Department of Education, in cooperation with the members of the Partnership for Family Involvement in Education, is producing and distributing READ*WRITE*NOW! kits with low-cost materials, activities books, and bookmarks. The kits, which are free, are right for children in kindergarten through sixth grade. You can get READ*WRITE*NOW! kits from a local library or from your local Reading is Fundamental (RIF) site. The American Library Association and RIF are key READ*WRITE*NOW! sponsors.

Or you can get the Internet kit by calling the U.S. Department of Education. The Internet address is <http://www.ed.gov>. The Department's toll-free number is 1-800-USA-LEARN (1-800-872-3327).

READ*WRITE*NOW! can make a great summertime activity for families, groups, teachers, schools and colleges, senior citizen centers, and every "at-risk" organization. This will be the best of all years.

READ*WRITE*NOW! Last summer, 100,000 children and 125,000 reading partners participated all across America. This summer, we're aiming to reach many more. If you are an American people, you can reach millions of kids who are nearest and dearest to your heart.

And we can really make a difference in the education of our children. Overall, American students are improving in math and science, but reading scores have been stagnant, and that's a problem for all of us. Virtually every job that is now being created in America requires a high level of literacy to perform. Good reading is necessary to succeed in school, to get and hold a good job, and to become a productive, contributing member of our society. So we all have a stake in helping students to keep their reading and writing skills sharp, whether school is open or closed. So let's make summertime reading time!

FROM CAPITOL HILL

Black males: still an endangered species

by Askin Muhammad

Former Howard University, and now Community College of Philadelphia Professor Justine Records deserves recognition as a clairvoyant.

One of those rare people with the power to see objects or events that cannot be perceived by the senses. Back in the 1970s—when environmentalism began developing lists of animals and plants needing protection—he was virtually alone in warning us that black males in America were an "endangered species."

Now, decades later, after an 18-month study, a deep-pockets foundation has issued a report (as do pockets foundations will do) advocating a 20-year "holistic approach"—a domestic "peace corps" if you will—to help one of the nation's most endangered populations. Black men and boys.

"We are trying to save urban America, not just black people but for

everybody," the Rev. Andrew Young, former Congress member, former U.N. Ambassador, former Mayor of Atlanta, and current summer Olympic Games Chairman, who heads the task force said. "It's a shock to me, to see young people so angry and hostile. I too find myself angry at our own children."

No one, least of all, the Rev. Young, should be shocked at this turn of events. That black men have been under attack is very, very old news. Just read what statesman Frederick Douglass is quoted from an April, 1889 speech as saying in the prologue to the Rev. Young's report "Repairing the Breach: Key Ways to Support Family Life, Reclaim Our Streets, and Rebuild Civil Society in America's Communities." The study was funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, of Battle Creek, Michigan.

Mark, if you please, the fact, for it is fact, an ominous fact, that at no time in the history of the continent has the condition of black men in this country has the character of the Negro as a man been made the subject of a more serious and more serious discussion in all the annals of debate than during the past and present years. Against him

have been marshaled the whole artillery of science, philosophy, and history. We are not only controlled by open force, but we are assailed in the guise of sympathy and friendship and presented as objects of pity—Frederick Douglass.

With new prison construction everywhere, the price of new private jail companies' stock soaring on Wall Street, and the hoosgow now seen as a growth industry, it should not require a rocket scientist to figure out that today's black men and boys—by JET, MTV, and the movie industry—have figured out who is Public Enemy No. 1 in America these days. What may be different now, and maybe Brother Malcolm X is to be thanked for this, today's "Homeboy" have crafted tactics to "fight back."

With the statistical precision that deep-time data funding funded research, "Repairing the Breach" outlines the conditions black men find themselves in today in America: his homicide rates were nearly eight times higher than for white males in 1991; 44 percent of black families are headed by females, 26.3 percent of all black

families live in poverty (compared to 7 percent of white families); only 41 percent of all black college students are male, and what's worse, there were fewer black men in college degrees in 1991 than in 1977.

So, the Kellogg Foundation assembled a respected committee, including at least one radical black national—Black Madhubuti, founder of *Third World Press* Chicago—which recommends raising \$50 to \$100 million in private contributions over the next 20 years to be dispersed for long-term preventive community programs to combat many of the problems afflicting black men, from gang involvement to the lack of positive role models.

The initiative hopes to build on the momentum of the Million Man March, rather than to argue that it is. This is certainly an affirmative next step, offering the kind of detail and long-term recommendations that everyone interested in the success of what the Million Man March represents, can probably also embrace. It's certainly better than continued silence from the philanthropic community in the face of the ongoing endangerment of black males in America.

what will be considered income, and which items will be forgiven. For instance, will home owners be allowed to deduct mortgage interest on their loans to claim deductions. But these are the details covered in the several proposals being submitted. At any rate—this is a question of the reshaping of the American political system, rather than the fall of America.

There are some black leaders and pontificators who believe and teach that we should choose a side and join together to help reform America. I, however, believe (based on my study of world history and international politics) that we should be in a hurry today to disassociate ourselves from the American political system. We have nothing to gain from becoming players in a corrupted game, unless our desire is for corruption to win.

Black people in America are kidding themselves if they think that the American is going to give over some debt forgiveness or welfare to the poor just because we control the U.S. economy, or because we form an independent political party and cast black votes. It should be clear to us by now that what we should do is to get out of the system, not to be a part of it.

How many black corporations or organizations dump money into lobbying the government, who means lining the pockets of the politicians? How many of us are willing to attend \$1,000-a-plate dinners in order to get a bill passed in our favor? How many of us can afford to make a \$10,000 campaign contribution, to ensure that our issue is placed on the candidate's platform? No American's political game is not for honest players. It's not game where justice rules. As a matter of fact, the rules change every time it looks like we might get justice.

A flat tax is not enough to level the playing field between blacks and whites. Full and Complete Reparations is the only fair solution.

Are there hidden dangers in voting?

by Minister Khalid K. Hadi

The Lost-Forest Nation of Islam is preparing to launch its voter registration campaign, in an effort to alert black people to the hidden dangers of voluntary participation in the American national political process. As thousands sign up to cast their votes in the '96 presidential election, a critical question lies under the carpet of emotionalism produced by media hype. How many black potential voters have asked themselves or their leaders what voting in the U.S. elections does to their ultimate achievement of true independence? Will the black masses cast a vote for freedom, justice and equity, or to abort the last hope for total liberation?

The popular black leadership has suggested that the key to positive inclusion is called African Americans the New World Order is to bring about a new America by reshaping its political structure. This people

claim can be done by registering large numbers of blacks, forming an "Independent Party," and winning back votes, with the thought of turning those votes over to the party or candidate who has our best interest at heart.

We must first question the feasibility of an independent black party. How can any party be independent as long as it functions inside of the American political system? Control of America fluctuates between the Democrats and the Republicans. Can we tell the difference between the two when it comes to benefits to our condition? Hardly! This is because they both operate within the same reality, a white supremacist reality. That reality will not be dissolved with the establishment of a black political party. In fact, it will be strengthened. The two major parties will most likely openly join forces to oppose the new entity.

All this aside, there is an issue of sovereignty. The natural inclination of any nation is to have self-rule. Even the "United States" of America are fighting to reclaim their autonomy from the American federal government. Each week we hear of a new battle between the federal government and a group of white Americans who feel that their freedoms at the state level are being denied. There is a white revolution going on in America, and black people are missing the boat.

Most importantly, we must protect our human rights, and our position as a nation. Today we are viewed by the international community as a nation held captive, or as Messenger Muhammad used to say a "Nation within a Nation." We have our own distinct national characteristics, which make us stand out, even though we are stirred into "the great melting pot." As a "National Ministry" we are guaranteed certain protections under international law (see Reparations Position Statement of All So-Called African Americans). The Nation of Islam has gone forward to claim those rights. However, the international eyebrow is

raised when blacks in America can be seen pouring out in large numbers willingly assimilating into the system that we claim to oppose.

Is it the desire of those black political leaders to negate our chance at Reparations and total liberation? Or are they just moving along on greed, revived by the prospect of their goal, which have been inflated by a total attention from the white man?

There is a great debate going on in America. The government and the people must decide if we are entrenched in the most encompassing battle in the history of the nation. In fact, it is the same question that sparked the formal establishment of the country's independence from England. Two hundred years ago, young group of republicans decided to have a tea party in one of their northern colonies, and invited the English crown. That same mind is revived in the minds of American youth, pondering the question of "taxation without representation."

While this is a fight among the voluntary citizens of America, it's chief national mission is to abolish the federal income tax system as it is, and replace it with a non-denominational flat tax system. There are several proposed forms that this new system could take. But the general idea is that rather than spending long nights with your accountant, and running your eyes searching the charges and schedules, trying to figure out which tax bracket you fall in, everyone would, under the flat tax, pay the same rate, say 20 percent of their income. Now there is some confusion as to

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Kids Kalendar

THRU JUNE 22
MIDDLETOWN—Monmouth County Park System schedules creative adventures for tots from 9:30 to 11 a.m. at the Shrewsbury Gymnasium, for kids 3 to 5, from 10:15 to 11 a.m. at Shrewsbury Gymnasium. For more info call 908-842-4000.

THRU JUNE 24
MIDDLETOWN—Monmouth County Park System schedules baby toilet basics for kids ages 3 to 5, from 9:15 to 10 a.m. at Tatum Park Activity Center. For more info call 908-842-4000.

MIDDLETOWN—Monmouth County Park System schedules advanced baby toilet basics for kids ages 3 to 5, from 10:15 to 11 a.m. at Tatum Park Activity Center. For more info call 908-842-4000.

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JUNE 12 THRU DECEMBER 15
NEWARK—The New Jersey Historical Society showcases The Kids Bridge exhibition at 230 Broadway. For more info call 401-933-3393.

FRIDAY, JUNE 24-26
COLTS NECK—"Pine Seedlings," a week long summer adventure for youngsters who are entering grades 1 and 2. Arts, crafts, field trips and pool time. Pre-registration required, call 908-219-9484.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29
MIDDLETOWN—"Owl Hoots," 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Butler Woods Environmental Center, Brown's Dock Rd., Locust. Youngsters 4-6 will hear stories of night owls and find out who swooshes and who hoots. For more info call 908-842-4000.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Let the games begin

Atlanta—Olympic athletes are not the only ones competing to win big this summer. As of Monday, May 20, consumers across the U.S. will be going for the gold by twisting red bottle caps and unwrapping can packages to win spectacular prizes in a Coca-Cola Red Hot Olympic Summer giveaway.

The contest will feature 100 one-of-a-kind Coca-Cola classic vending machines, autographed by Olympians, 10 "Red Hot" Chevrolet Camaros, more than 1.5 million pieces of authentic Olympic Games Collection merchandise from Starter and Champion, and more than 200 million discounts on official licensed Olympic Games apparel and accessories at Foot Locker, and Coca-Cola's free 20-ounce bottles of Coca-Cola classic.

The Coca-Cola Red Hot Olympic Summer concludes with the end of the Olympic Games, August 4, or while supplies last. An Olympic-sized total of \$1.6 billion in available prizes and discounts will be offered during the 11-week promotion.

Each of the 100 vending machines, which include a free one-year supply of Coca-Cola products, is individually autographed by Gold Medal-winning Olympians Michael Johnson, Summer Sanders, Pablo Morales, Evelyn Ashford and Steve Lundquist.

One out of three consumers will win prizes and discounts by finding instant-win messages under the red caps of specially-marked bottles and inside Red Hot Olympic Summer can multi-packs.

Red Hot Olympic Summer game pieces, including special red caps, can be found on specially-marked 16-ounce, 20-ounce and 1-, 2-, and 3-liter bottles, and inside 12-, 18-, 20-, and 24-can multi-packs of Coca-Cola classic, caffeine free Coca-Cola classic, Diet Coke, caffeine free Diet Coke and cherry Coke at participating retail outlets.

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NJ teens rank high in Pepsi arts awards

NEW YORK—Pepsi-Cola and ESSENCE magazine, in conjunction with the 1996 Essence Awards celebration, sponsored the fourth annual Pepsi Youth Awards at the Harlem School of the Arts. The Awards recognize achievement by students 14 to 17 years old in the greater New York, New Jersey and Connecticut area. Seventeen-year-old Zolanda Cyrille of Somerset, was the forerunner with a speech. Seventeen-year-old Felicia Curry of Parsippany, won the vocal-music category with a gospel song. Sixteen-year-old Monique Blamo of Hialeah, was the winner in the instrumental-music category for her classical piano recital. And, Eighteen-year-old Ernestine Ward of Jamaica, Queens, won community service/leadership category for her essay on leadership. Pictured left to right are on-air personality U. Keith Alexander; Monique Blamo; Zolanda Cyrille; Felicia Curry; BBDO Account Executive Marissa Nance; and Pepsi associate marketing manager Heila Horton. All grand-prize winners received a pair of tickets to the 1996 Essence Awards, held at The Theater at Madison Square Garden (formerly the Paramount) on April 26, as well as a \$1,000 U.S. Savings Bond. The winner in each category also received a commemorative plaque.

Students honored by Lions Club

PLAINFIELD—The Lions Club of Plainfield recently honored seven youth for winning first place at their respective schools in the Lion's International Peace Poster contest. The theme of the contest was "Building a Peaceful World." The winners each received a Certificate of Achievement commemorating the event as well as a \$50 U.S. Savings Bond.

Each of the winning posters was entered in four-county contest, competing with entries from elementary school pupils in the rest of Union County, Essex, Morris and Warren Counties.

Following are the names and respective schools of each of the 1996 winners: Gisella Cott, Emerson School; Carlos Guerrero, Jefferson School; Herlin Patrick, Evergreen School; Leytan Powell, Clinton School; Ameer Pretty, Woodland School; Crystal Robinson, Cook School; and Tiffany Taggart, Cedar Brook School.

No bones about it...Teens need calcium

(NAPS)—It is never too soon to start protecting your bones. Osteoporosis is often called a pediatric disease with geriatric outcomes because it starts during adolescence but symptoms don't normally occur until sufferers are in their mid-40s. Drinking milk and consuming other calcium-rich foods is especially important during the growth years when bone mass is forming, but calcium consumption is necessary at any age to maintain existing bone mass.

Research shows that teenagers—girls in particular—don't get enough calcium in their diets. Teenage girls sometimes decrease their intake of milk and other dairy foods because they fear that these foods will make them gain weight. Today, there are many lowfat dairy products that provide a viable and tasty option for teenagers.

A recent study found that young girls who met their recommended daily allowance of calcium by consuming dairy products were able to increase their bone density without increasing either their caloric intake or their weight.

Participants were able to choose the products they consumed, opting most often for 2 percent milk. As an added benefit, their diets also showed an increase in consumption of other essential nutrients, including phosphorus, magnesium, protein, riboflavin and vitamin A, B6 and B12 and D.

Many typical diets provide only 200 to 300 mg of calcium a day. One way to increase the amount of calcium in your diet is to be aware of calcium-rich foods and try to include them in your menu.

The full recommended amount of calcium is easily obtained from food sources, including such dairy products as milk, yogurt, ice cream and cheese. An 8-ounce glass of milk contains about 300 mg of calcium. For teenagers to ward off osteoporosis, which is largely preventable, experts recommend 12 mg of calcium daily.

New Jersey On-line launches Worm World

JERSEY CITY—Crawling through dirt and eating it, sucking blood, being stung by hawks... These are just a few of the daily activities of worms. Worm World, the latest offering from New Jersey On-line's The Yuckiest Site On The Internet (http://www.nj.com/yucky/worm) explores the habits, biology, and general gross-out facts about the worms. The way that it's fun and good science at the same time.

From Red Wrigglers to leeches to sea worms and earthworms that grow up 12 feet long, The Yuckiest Site On The Internet's Worm World takes a

Kids Bridge comes to New Jersey

NEWARK—The New Jersey Historical Society announces the opening of The Kids Bridge on Wednesday, June 12, with a public reception scheduled from 5 to 7 p.m. at its headquarters, 230 Broadway in Newark.

Incorporating the creative energies of New Jersey students and cultural groups with traveling interactive components developed by the Children's Museum of Boston, the program encourages New Jerseyans to constructively examine the sensitive, but relevant social issues of diversity, identity and prejudice.

In The Kids Bridge, children and adults will explore their ethnic and racial identities; discover the many cultures, languages, and neighborhoods which embody New Jersey; and look at issues of prejudice in a supportive environment. When entering the exhibition, visitors will complete a profile of themselves and then draw a silhouette of a friend, filling it with lively images from his or her dreams and interests. In a colorful matching game, they can choose statements and raise sliding panels to find out who's like themselves. To better appreciate the cultural richness of their home state, they can peek at various celebrations in the "Neighborhood Windows" dioramas.

The Kids Bridge will be on display at the Historical Society through December 15. Regular gallery hours are Tuesday through Friday, and the first and third Saturdays of each month, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information call 201-483-3939.

Don't forget, June 16 is Fathers' Day

June 12
1940—The World Anti-Slavery Convention convenes in London, England.
1976—A monument is dedicated to Richard Allen in Philadelphia's First Baptist Church. It is the first known monument erected by African Americans to honor one of their heroes.
1985—Madrigal Evers, field secretary for the Mississippi NAACP, is killed outside of his home in Jackson, MS.
1987—The Supreme Court strikes down a Virginia segregation law.
1972—The National Black MBA Association is incorporated.

June 13
1908—Isabel O'Leary is named as the first female governor of Louisiana.
1987—Eleanor Holmes Norton is born in Washington, DC.
1987—U.S. senator George Marshall is appointed associate justice of the Supreme Court by President Lyndon B. Johnson.
1990—Bernadette Locke becomes the first female on-court coach when she is named assistant coach of the University of Kentucky men's basketball team.

June 14
1939—The Ethel Waters Show, a variety special, appears on NBC. It is the first time an African American appears on television.
1941—John Edgar Wideman is born in Washington, DC. He will become a Rhodes scholar and writer. Such fictional works as Harry Houdini, Damballah and Philadelphia Fire.
1948—Actress Martha Gibbs is born in Chicago, IL.
1970—Charrel Adriano Brown wins the Miss Iowa pageant and becomes the first African American to compete in Miss America.
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June 17
1975—Farmer Joe Tate is shot by a white supremacist in the battle of the Little Rock Central High School.
1977—Wendell Scott James Wideman is born in Tampa, FL.
1987—Six days of rioting end in Newark, NJ, in the worst urban violence since the Watts Riots of 1965.

June 18
1880—William H. Robinson receives a patent for a baby carriage whose body can be raised from its frame.
1943—Bernard Robinson, of Harvard, becomes a Naval Reserve aviator.
1991—The first African American to earn a U.S. Navy commission.
1993—Egbert becomes a regular after the forced abolition of King Park Jr.
1995—Rumal Nater becomes the first African American to serve on the Albany Executive Committee.
1994—Citywide William W. Whitehead is elected mayor of Denver, CO. He is the first African American to hold the post.

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This Week in Black History

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LIFESTYLE

Religious Calendar

JUNE 16, 23, 30

NEW ARMOY—"Great Days of Gospel" a religious music revue about the women who wrote Gospel big in the music industry. Harlem's Victoria 5 Theater, 235 W. 125th St., call 212-926-0104 for tickets.

SATURDAY, JUNE 16
PERTH ARMOY—"Father's Day Special Recognition Service." Special day of honoring fathers. Both 7:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. services. The Cathedral, 277 Madison Ave., 908-826-5293.

JERSEY CITY—Interdenominational Christian Convention. Chelsea Men's Fellowship sponsors their 10th annual Father's Day Community Awards Breakfast at 8 a.m. For more info call 201-432-3622.

SATURDAY, JUNE 15
NEW YORK—"GospelFest '96." 12th annual McDonald's gala event. 7:30 p.m. at Madison Square Garden. Tickets available through Ticket Master, 212-307-7171. 201-507-8900.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19
PERTH ARMOY—"Cathedral of Education." 3:30 p.m. For more info call The Cathedral, 277 Madison Ave., 908-826-5293.

FRIDAY, JUNE 21
NEWARK—"The 34th Annual Deliverance World Convention." Bishop Donald Hillard, Jr. will be the first speaker of the 11 day convention. Deliverance Temple, 821 Clinton Ave., call 908-826-5293.

TUESDAY, JUNE 25-28
PERTH ARMOY—"Family Matters." A weekend of worship and building healthy families. For more info call The Cathedral - Second Baptist Church, 277 Madison Ave., 908-826-5293.

MONDAY, JUNE 22
NEW YORK—Lincoln Center Festival '96 presents the Institutional Radio Choir of Brooklyn and Trinitarian Hawkins at Church of St. Paul the Apostle at 8 p.m. For more info call 212-771-6500.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8
NEW YORK—Lincoln Center Festival '96 presents the Sons of Thunder Trumpet Ensemble and the Reverend Al Green at Avery Fisher Hall at 8 p.m. For more info call 212-771-6500.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication.

Health Calendar

FRIDAY, JUNE 14
WESTFIELD—"Stress Management: The Mind Body Connection." 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence of Union County, Inc. For more info call 908-233-8810.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13
PLAINFIELD—"Second Annual Health and Wellness Fair." At The Urban Community Center of Plainfield. 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at 232 East Front St. For more info call Mildred Leverette at 908-756-3500.

THURSDAY, JUNE 20
BELLE MEAD—"Stress and Relaxation." will be the topic of discussion at Dr. William Dandekar at Carleer Foundation from 6:45 to 9 p.m. For more info call 908-261-1516.

Newark offers expanded immunization clinic hours

NEWARK—In order to make it easier and more convenient for parents to have their children immunized, the city of Newark's Department of Health and Human Services announced the addition of new office hours in the Immunization Program's clinic. The new hours will be Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. until 7 p.m. The agency's clinic, located at 110 William Street is in operation Monday through Wednesday and on Fridays, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

In addition to the HHS clinic, the department also provides immunization services at 18 Rector Street, Mondays through Fridays, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., as well as at the Newark WIC Program at 10 William Street, Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., officials noted. Parents should call Health Department at 733-7580 for the location and days of the immunizations scheduled for their neighborhood.

Long Branch's Second Baptist church welcomes 13th pastor

by Lonnie Moore

LONGBRANCH—Last evening, the congregation of Second Baptist Church to "let the spirit of God lead" as they reached another historical turning point on May 19 when their 13th pastor was installed.

With a church filled to capacity the Rev. Aaron N. Gibson, Sr., a native of Baltimore, MD., became pastor of the 92-year-old church. Gibson now embarks on strengthening a "ministry of action" that the late Rev. C.P. Williams spent over 51 years helping to build and nurture.

Worshippers seem certain Gibson's military experience, serving 27 years with the Army Chaplaincy and attaining the rank of Command Sergeant Major, will enhance their spiritual needs as well as help their community outreach efforts. Before becoming a pastor last year, Gibson assisted in leading a 250-member congregation in Germany for three years.

All of the clergymen attending the installation service agreed Gibson would not be able to guide Second Baptist Church towards the 21st Century without support from its congregation and

the community at large. The Rev. Albert C. Clayton of St. John's Baptist Church, Lakewood, in his installation sermon told Gibson that he would be challenged by many adventures as he begins his new journey.

"Satan will meet his course... and he is determined you will not meet your goals, so you've got to know whose side your on because sometimes you'll have to stand alone," Clayton said.

But who is now pastor of United Fellowship Baptist Church in Ashbury Park told Gibson and his congregation, that was obvious that their spirit

was moving.

"Don't stay in the house but go out into the streets... take back Liberty St., take back Rockwell Ave., take back Broadway, take back Long Branch back the world," Brown continued.

Members of Second Baptist describe the Rev. Aaron Gibson, Sr. as a person endowed with a great capacity to love and care for God's children. At an early age, he was baptized at Fulton Baptist Church, Baltimore, MD.

Alayne Randolph, chairperson of the Pulpit Committee of Second Baptist, explained after the services what it was like to search for a new pastor of

a church where the previous pastor had died for over 51 years.

"God sent Rev. Gibson to us," Randolph said. "We listened to trail sermons but we had been connected to Rev. Gibson for 12 years."

Randolph said Gibson has served as a pulpit associate, associate pastor and pastor-elect so now she just looks forward to him serving as Pastor.

We were blessed, he said, to have a man teach for a pastor," continued Randolph, "I visualize the church growing spiritually under Rev. Gibson... if we grow spiritually we will grow numerically."

AAA offers safety tips for tourists

FLORHAM PARK—"It's unfortunate that while you take vacation, criminals don't. Fortunately, most travelers who fall victim to crime suffer nothing more serious than petty theft."

There's a number of reasons criminals target tourists. First, they're so easy to spot. Second, they carry a lot of cash, credit cards, expensive camera equipment and sometimes passports, which are valued on the black market.

To help ensure that you don't fall victim to a crime while on vacation, AAA offers the following safety tips: In an Airport or a plane:

Wait for flights on the gate side of the security checkpoint. Be mindful of your luggage. If you nap, prop your feet on your bags. During a flight, place your carry-on overhead compartment slightly in front of you so you can keep an eye on them.

In a Hotel:

Insist on a room with a peephole and

a working deadbolt—and use both. Don't open the door to anyone without first asking to see identification through the peephole.

In a Car: Know where you're going and stick to well-lit roads. Drivers who get lost often get into trouble.

If you're in a minor accident you suspect was caused intentionally, drive to a public area (a shopping center, a gas station or police facility, for example) before pulling over to the side of the road.

Drive on if you're flagged down by someone involved in a minor accident. It may have been staged to get you to stop. Instead, use your cellular phone or go to a public telephone and call the authorities.

On the Street: Travel light. If you're overburdened with cameras and handbags, you're more likely to be targeted. Know where you're going. Fumbling with a map attracts a tourist. The AAA also travels a free guide to trouble-free travel.



Toddlers sought for Rutgers research project on learning

NEW BRUNSWICK—Children 16-20 months old and their parents are invited to take part in an interesting and fun project. Rutgers that will help researchers understand how toddlers learn and remember experiences. Participating children will visit a playroom on Rutgers' Busch campus four times over a 10-week period for sessions that generally last 30 minutes or less. They will play with toys during the first session and return 10 weeks later to see a video about toys. They will return the following day and play again, with observers looking in to assess their memories of the earlier play experience and the video. Parents will remain with their children throughout the visit. Sessions are conducted by graduate and undergraduate students in psychology who are working under the auspices of the university's Child Development Laboratory, a unit of the Rutgers psychology department. The study is administered by Judith Hudson, associate professor of psychology.

Participating children will receive a certificate of appreciation from Rutgers. Parents will get a copy of the results once the study is completed. Visits can be scheduled at the convenience of the parents. For more information, call 908-445-3814.

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Contribute to Fresh Air Fund

NEWARK—Through the efforts of the Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund, you can help send hundreds of deprived inner-city children to camp who would otherwise be spending the hot summer days in depressing and dangerous neighborhoods with nowhere to go and nothing to do.

The summer of '96 will mark the 114th year the Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund has been sending disadvantaged youths into the open countryside, where they can enjoy clean air and the wonders of nature, as well as a vast variety of wholesome camp activities.

Keep in mind, just how much good this fund can do. The Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund will be able to accomplish its purpose entirely upon the amount of donations it receives. Contribute to the 1996 Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund today, and feel good about yourself.

Checks should be made payable to the 1996 Greater Newark Fresh Air Fund, 43 Hill Street, Newark, NJ 07102.

Teenagers damaging their hearing

by James L. Phillips, MD

HOUSTON, TX—Hearing loss is usually associated with old age. Not anymore. More and more people in their 20s have hearing loss due to mistakes made in their teens.

Once hearing damage occurs it's too late, says Dr. Ellen Friedman, a pediatric otolaryngologist at Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. Medicine or surgery simply can't fix it because hearing aids do not always work for everyone. Prevention is the only solution.

What's causing the hearing loss? Several things, says Friedman, including improper use of portable stereo headsets, attendance at loud concerts, and a trend among teenagers to play car stereos at car-damaging volumes.

Even the music industry has acknowledged the problem with several well-known rock stars endorsing groups like HEAR (Hearing Education Awareness for Rockers) or campaigns such as HIP (Hearing is Priceless), which educate teenagers through school programs, and produce public service

Whitman announces initiative to fight healthcare fraud

TRENTON—Governor Christie Whitman has launched a coordinated, multi-department initiative to fight health care fraud in New Jersey. National estimates indicate that \$50 billion is lost each year to health care fraud.

"Health care insurance fraud silently takes each of our pocketbooks," the Governor said, "whether we know it or not, every New Jersey pays for additional health care costs that are increased by such practices as filing false bills and claims, bribery, tax evasion and kickbacks."

Closer home, Whitman pointed to a plan entered on May 28 in one of New Jersey's largest health care fraud cases where, a psychologist pleaded guilty to defrauding the State Health Benefits Plan of more than \$3.5 million for providing psychotherapy sessions that never took place. The psychologist is "patients," who were part of the conspiracy included more than 60 teachers and school officials.

Under the terms of an executive order recently signed, the Governor created a cabinet-level Health Care Fraud Task Force, chaired by Attorney General Deborah Poritz and charged with developing a comprehensive statewide plan to coordinate New Jersey's health care and insurance fraud enforcement and prevention efforts.

"New Jersey has had many enforcement successes in the ongoing battle against health care fraud," Attorney General Poritz said. "But more needs to be done. We will be better able to police and deter health care fraud with the broad, systematic approach and greater coordination of enforcement efforts that we are beginning today."

Community services directory available at City Hall

NEWARK—The City of Newark has released its first "Community Services Directory," listing over 200 agencies city wide that serve residents, businesses and visitors.

Available at the Newark Public Information Office in City Hall, the directory includes information on Arts and Culture, Social and Government Services, Recreation for senior citizens and youth, Job Training and Education, Consumer Affairs, Day Care, Legal Services, Women's Services and several other categories.

"In response to the many phone calls and inquiries we have received from citizens, the book will certainly be a valuable resource to the public," Mayor Sharpe James said.

The directory was produced by the Newark Public Information Office and printed by the Prudential Insurance Company of America, Administration Services Division. For more information about obtaining the Community Services Directory or to be included in the next edition, please call the Newark Public Information Office 201-733-8004.

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NJ TRANSIT

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TRANSIT ARTS PROGRAM

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

NJ TRANSIT is soliciting Expressions of Interest (EOI) from artists seeking commissions for artwork projects to be implemented in conjunction with the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail Transit System (HBLRTS). The HBLRTS will be implemented over a period spanning from Summer 1996 to Summer 1999. Artwork will be commissioned in conjunction with the overall project implementation and will vary in size, duration and schedule.

Details concerning the HBLRTS Transit Arts Program are contained in the EOI, copies of which are available from NJ TRANSIT by phoning (201) 491-8297, or by writing: HBLRTS Transit Arts Program; NJ TRANSIT; 1 Penn Plaza East, 9th Floor, Newark, NJ 07105-2246. All Expressions of Interest must be provided on the form included in the EOI, and must be postmarked by July 6, 1996.



Billboard

THRU SUNDAY, JUNE 30

NEW YORK—*Power Play*, by Lorey Hayes is a provocative, seething, often times funny look at the residual effects of political scandal. National Black Theatre, 2033 Fifth Ave., Harlem, N.Y., call 212-722-3900 for tickets.

THRU JULY 21

MILWAUKEE—Evita by Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice at the Paper Mill Playhouse. For info call 201-776-4343.

JUNE 12

HOBOKEN—The City of Hoboken and Projected Images presents "Indoors at the Shannon Lounge" with City of Lost Children. 7:30 p.m. Call 201-217-4077.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 14, 15

JASON'S JAZZ and **Blues Nightclub** hosts Herd of Blues, Sladebaker John and Billy Hecor & the Fairlans. Call for June entertainment schedule 1604 F Street, S. Belmar 908-661-1416.

JUNE 13-29

LINCROFT—"Oliver," 8 p.m. at the Henderson Theatre, call 908-758-1118.

THURSDAY, JUNE 13

WAYNE—High school, college and community musicians are invited to audition for the 18 member William Paterson College Summer Jazz Ensemble which will perform at the college in July. Those who wish to try out should prepare a piece of jazz music of three minutes or less. For info call 201-555-2315.

UPPER MONTCLAIR—"Man of La Mancha," opens at Memorial Auditorium at Montclair State University. For more info call 201-655-5112.

HOBOKEN—Movies Under the Stars presents "Frankenstein" (1931) starring Boris Karloff. Free outdoor movies at the Erie Lackawanna Plaza. Bring a lawn chair or blanket. Call for schedule 201-420-2207 or 217-4077.

FRIDAY, JUNE 14

HOLMDEL—Garden States Arts Center presents The Moody Blues. Call Ticket Master for more info, 201-507-8900.

Calendar listings should be sent two weeks in advance to ensure publication

Run For The Dream: The Gail Devers Story

The 1992 Olympic Games in Barcelona, Spain were filled with amazing stories of competitors who battled the odds for a chance to compete. However, it's hard to top the compelling story of American track star Gail Devers who won the gold medal—and the world's heart—in the 100 meter sprint. Overcoming the trauma of a debilitating illness, she "ran to glory"—winning the gold with a physical process that will once again be tested this summer in Atlanta.

In SHOWTIME Networks original movie, *Run For The Dream*, The Gail Devers Story actress Chantayne Woodard portrays Devers in an inspirational story of how one woman found the physical strength and spiritual fortitude to beat the odds.

Run For The Dream focuses on Devers' struggle and her support group—namely her famous coach, Bob Kersee portrayed by Lou Gossett, Jr., her husband, R.J. played by Jeffrey Sams, her parents, the Reverend and Mrs. Devers (Robert Guillaume, Paula Kelly) and her good friend and Kersee's wife, Jackie Joyner-Kersey (Tina Lifford).

When Devers is diagnosed with Graves' disease, an abnormality associated with an enlarged thyroid gland



which short circuits the metabolic and nervous systems slowly, she watches her body disintegrate before her eyes.

A further rift develops between her husband and coach when Kersee refuses to implore Gail to take the drug that will help her battle the side effects of radiation therapy. Why? It's been declared illegal by the International Olympic Committee.

The situation worsens and the doctors discuss the possibility of

amputating Devers' feet. That horrifying threat proves to be a catalyst for her recovery. Thanks to vigorous support from Kersee and her parents, Devers determines that she wants to run again. Painfully, she begins to take the first steps and, amazingly, she returns to form. In one of the most extraordinary comebacks in sports history, Gail Devers hits the track and wins the gold medal in the 100 meter sprint and the title, "Fastest Woman in the World."

The Life and Work of Audre Lorde airs on PBS



Poet, mother, warrior—Audre Lorde is a fiercely passionate American visionary. Her poetry and prose speak to her deepest convictions—love and anger, civil rights and sexuality, family politics and the glories of nature. She gave voice to a political generation and became a role model not only for black women but for everyone who believes, as she did, that "liberation is not the private province of any one particular group."

In 1992 Lorde lost her battle with breast cancer but she leaves behind a rich and vital legacy. *A Litany For Survival*, a powerful profile of African-American poet Audre Lorde will air nationally Tuesday June 18 at 10 p.m. ET on PBS as part of Point Of View broadcast television's only continuing forum for independent non-fiction film. (check local listings).

The work of the poet within each of us is to envision what has not yet been and to work with every fiber of who we are to make the reality pursuit of those visions irresistible—Audre Lorde

Epps and LaMarre star in HBO's Deadly Voyage



Omar Epps, (l) and Jean-Claude LaMarre

NEW YORK—Kingsley Ofoasi knew it would be dangerous to stow away on a cargo ship—but he had no idea of the terrors awaiting him and his seven friends when the crew went on a murderous rampage.

Drawn from real-life testimony and interviews given by Kingsley Ofoasi, the HBO NYC/BBC thriller *Deadly Voyage* tells the story of eight African stowaways on a cargo ship, seven of whom were murdered—only Ofoasi survived the tragic ship-board ordeal.

Danny Glover is an executive

producer of the drama, which was filmed in Ghana and stars Omar Epps (*Higher Learning*), David Suchet (*Poirot*), Joss Ackland (*Lethal Weapon 2*), Jean-Claude LaMarre (*Dead Presidents*) and Sean Pertwee (*Blue Juice*).

Debuting Saturday, June 15 at 8 p.m. (ET) and 9 p.m. (PT), *Deadly Voyage* is the second film (following last October's "The Affair," executive produced by Harry Belafonte) of a major long-term production agreement between the BBC and HBO/NYC.

Concerned with avoiding new, stiffer fines for allowing undocumented aliens to stow away, shipping company representative Vlachos (David Suchet) orders a clampdown on security aboard the freighter *MC Ruby*, which becomes the responsibility of ship's officer Lon (Sean Pertwee). Chafing at the extra duties, Lon instructs his crew to increase their vigilance as the *MC Ruby* sails for Africa and the Gold Coast.

HBO NYC, a new movie division launched in January and based in New York, provides a forum for both new and established talent to do contemporary, innovative work. As a new force in the independent filmmaking community, executive producer for single films at BBC Drama is George Faller.

Marcus Roberts in concert at Village Vanguard

NEW YORK—Pianist Marcus Roberts brings his new jazz trio to the city's legendary Village Vanguard for six nights in June. Performing with Roberts will be bassist David Grossman and drummer Jason Marable.

Concert dates will be Thursday, June 18 through Saturday June 23 at 9:30 and 11:30 p.m. with an additional 1 a.m. set on Friday and Saturday. For reservations call 212-255-4037.



Morris Day to perform at Club Bené

SAYREVILLE—Funksters, Morris Day, who broke onto the scene in Purple Rain, and the Time will be performing at the Club Bené on Friday, June 14. The show will begin at 9 p.m. with an optional dinner at 7 p.m. For reservations call 908-727-3000.



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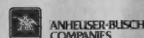
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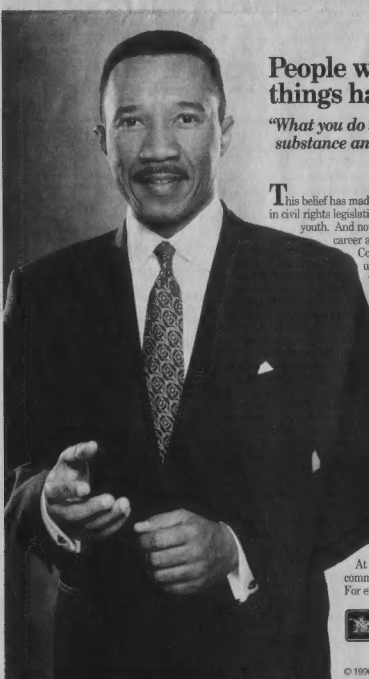
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BUSINESS

Business Calendar

JUNE 12 THRU 14

WASHINGTON, DC—Successful Business to Business Product Management seminar at the AMA Management Center. For more info call 1-800-262-3699. For hotel reservations call the Hyatt Regency Capital Hill at 202-942-1555.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 12

NEWARK—New Jersey Technology Expo Awards Program. The Regional Business Partnership awards N.J.'s fastest growing technology companies. 8-10 a.m. at Gateway Hilton, call 201-242-6237.

NEW YORK—The Center for Business Marketing Information hosts a seminar exclusively for business-to-business marketers using RFM. The Secret Weapon of Successful Marketers. For more info call 203-857-5660.

MONDAY, JUNE 17

NEW YORK—The National Minority Business Council will host in conjunction with TAA-CREF the Third Annual Achievement Awards Reception honoring Pfizer Inc., McCoy Realty Company and Atlas Inc. For more info call 212-575-2285.

TUESDAY, JUNE 18

NEW YORK—U.S. General Services Administration sponsors New York's Minority Business Breakfast for Small and Minority Women Entrepreneurs at Stark's Veranda Restaurant from 11 a.m. For more info call 212-264-1234.

NEW YORK—Museum of the City of New York announces the First Historic Neighborhood Business Award at Blackie's dinner reception at 6:30 p.m. For more info call 534-1672.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 19

NEWARK—Business Breakfast Series—Solutions for every facet of Your Business. Learn how to create a system that will enhance your efficiency and productivity with voice and data communications, video conferencing and image transfers. 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Newark Club, One Newark Center, 22nd Fl. Call 201-242-6237.

WEST ORANGE—101 Ways to Protect Your Investment Returns. Speaker: Dr. A. Walker, Senior Vice President, Investments Retirement Plan Coordinator, Corporate Services Specialist, 6 p.m. The Mentor, 111 Prospect Ave. Call 212-392-7715 for reservations.

New web site to improve networking opportunities for blacks



George C. Fraser

CLEVELAND, OH—Networking guru George C. Fraser is taking his formidable network and database of 250,000 black professionals, community leaders and entrepreneurs to the world wide web.

The web site will be called FraserNet, Linking People and Ideas, and will officially launch on July 11 at the Online Expo and Conference in San Francisco. FraserNet is the first web site of its kind to focus on improving networking opportunities and race relations.

According to Fraser, "the mission of the project is to create the best, content-rich web site to serve as a major resource for improving working skills and opportunities, disseminating

valuable information and promoting personal growth and development throughout black communities worldwide."

While the focus of the site will be centralizing for easier access to the business and professional resources of the black community, a special site on FraserNet called "Join the Net" will promote new ideas for improving race relations and encouraging cross cultural linkages.

Links will be formed by listing free of charge, anyone who agrees to provide expert advice (within limits) in their professional specialty to anyone listed in "the Net."

"Our site is something like an intellectual bazaar system where the

free flow and exchange of information is the first step to building good relationships, and a solid network," stated Fraser.

Additionally, each month users will find helpful tips and facts on how to improve networking skills. There will also be monthly stories on how people have overcome racial hatred and prejudice plus classified, chat rooms, event calendars, newsletters, key contact directories and hot links to the top 100 African Americans online web sites.

"Effective networking to achieve economic parity is the number one agenda item in black America," Fraser stated. "Overcoming the divisiveness of racial hatred and prejudice must

become one of the top agenda items for America. FraserNet is the first site to assist in both," the entrepreneur noted.

"I've decided to announce the FraserNet launch at Online Expo '96 because its President Larry Richard of Santa Monica, CA has put together the largest show of investors and lenders. The book demonstrated the kind of minority outreach rarely demonstrated in this emerging technology," Fraser continued.

The goal is to make FraserNet a one stop linkage to all major black oriented content on the site. To visit FraserNet; <http://www.fraser.net>

BUSINESS EXCHANGE

Money available for home improvement grants and subsidized loans

by William Reed

Most homeowners are unaware that, regardless of their income, there are federal, state, and local programs that will help them repair and remodel their homes.

Government at all levels recognizes that neighborhoods are the basis of life in our country. When a neighborhood deteriorates, many things happen—both physically and socially. When the homes look shabby, a neighborhood seems more attractive to crime and criminals. An area in decline is like a spreading cancer. As homes become shabby looking and in need of maintenance, the residents lose their desire to keep up the neighborhood. Streets become receptacles for trash, schools lower their standards, and very quickly the selling price of homes in the area drops sharply. This accelerates the cycle of deterioration.

In order to keep and maintain the nation's housing and neighborhoods, governments at all levels have programs to give homeowners money that does not have to be repaid for repairs, or to lend them money at below-market levels or at no interest. In many areas,

utility companies will do energy conservation work, either free or at low cost; in other places, utilities may lend homeowners money at no interest to pay the contractor of their choice for the necessary work. In addition, there are tax incentives to promote efficient use.

These programs are not restricted to low income people, slum areas, or urban neighborhoods. Owners of single- or multi-family dwellings are eligible. The grants do not have to be repaid, and most of the loans are offered at low or no interest, long terms, and low payments.

Some of the other home improvement covered under these programs are: Attic and wall insulation, new windows, outer wall siding, security doors and locks, window guards, sidewalks and masonry work, bathrooms and kitchens electrical and plumbing work, and new roofs, gutters, and down spouts.

Consumer Education Research Center, a national nonprofit consumer group, recently published the 208-page, updated edition of Consumers' Guide to Home Repair Grants and Subsidized Loans, \$16.95 plus \$3 shipping from CERC GRANTS, 1980 Springfield

Avenue, Maplewood, NJ 07040 or 1-800-872-0121 with credit card. The guide lists more than seven thousand sources of loan and income grant programs offered by federal, state, and local governments, utility companies, and others; typical programs offered and how to qualify. Form letters for inquiries about these loan and grant sources are included, as well as detailed instructions on determining your

debt-to-income ratio for eligibility.

Some programs have no income ceiling, and others allow income of as much as \$50,000 per year—or more. There are even programs for which tenants are eligible, and many allow loans to poor credit risks. In many areas, people with disabilities can receive grants to pay for needed repairs, such as access ramps and widening of doorways.

Since it is important that the work be done properly, the book includes a section describing the rough cost of many jobs as well as advice on picking a contractor, negotiating a contract, and insuring the work is done properly and for a fair price. And to help you communicate with your contractor, the book includes a dictionary of terms used by these professionals.

Nissan to sponsor The Rowan Report radio broadcasts

CARSON, CA.—Nissan Motor Corporation, U.S.A., recently announced that, beginning April 1, it will be the sole sponsor of the "Rowan Report," radio commentaries of award-winning columnist, Carl T. Rowan. Nissan's sponsorship of Rowan's four-minute commentaries, will air five days a week.

"The Rowan Report," discusses issues vital to the African American and other minority communities, including such topics as presidential and congressional elections, developments in Congress, welfare, child care and AIDS, to name a few. The program will air in 11 U.S. markets, including New York, Philadelphia, Chicago and Detroit, among other metro cities.

In 1961 President John F. Kennedy named Rowan, Deputy Assistant Secretary of State, as a delegate to the

United Nations during the Cuban missile crisis and then U.S. Ambassador to Finland, making Rowan the youngest African American ambassador in the world. In 1965 Rowan left government ranks to become the nation's first African American syndicated columnist.

The author of eight books, Rowan pioneered reporting about the plight of black Americans in the post-war South with an explosive series of articles called "How Far From Slavery."

Rowan has won numerous awards, including three Sigma Delta Chi medals, making him the only journalist in American history to accomplish such a feat.

"We are proud to partner with such a distinguished newsmen as Mr. Rowan in conveying to the African American and other minority communities information that will help improve the quality of their lives," said Jerry Florence,

Nissan's Vice President, Brand and Consumer Marketing.

"I have noted with heartfelt approval Nissan's increasing support for historically black colleges, black scholarship programs and cultural programs that are so important to the African American, Hispanic and other minority communities," stated Rowan. "I am more than pleased to have Nissan's enthusiastic support for broadcasting that gives something back to our communities."

In North America, Nissan's operations include styling, engineering, manufacturing, sales, consumer and corporate finance, and industrial and textile equipment. Nissan in North America employs nearly 10,000 people in the United States and Canada and generates an additional 55,000 jobs through its 1,400 Nissan and Infiniti dealerships across the continent.

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New Brunswick organization seeks solution for healthcare

NEW BRUNSWICK—The partnership for a Healthy Middlesex County, which has grown from a local health assessment initiative started in 1995 by the Health Task Force of New Brunswick Tomorrow (NBT), has announced its formation to assess the health needs of the county and develop a plan for an improved network of health care services. NBT is the city's private revitalization agency which concentrates on human/social

services.

The initial phase of the assessment process will begin with a telephone survey of over 3,000 randomly selected households to be conducted by the Eagleton Institute at Rutgers University. This survey will focus on individual health behaviors and practices, and examine issues including access to primary care. The results of the survey will be used to identify unmet health

needs and develop a plan to address those needs. Individual surveys will be confidential, with only group results being presented.

Bernard Mikulak and Steve Papenberg, co-chairs of the Partnership, encourage residents to participate in the survey if they are called during the upcoming weeks. "The Bagleton telephone survey is an opportunity for residents to help their community by providing vital information which will help us determine where we should focus our efforts to improve services and health in the county," said Bernadette West, Executive Director for Mid-State Health Advisory Corporation and member of the Partnership.

The Partnership includes, and is primarily funded by, all of the acute care hospitals in the county which include JFK Medical Center, Memorial Medical Center at South Amboy, Raritan Bay Medical Center, Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, and St. Peter's Medical Center.

The other members of the Partnership are NBT, the City of New Brunswick, the Middlesex County Health Officer's Association, UMDNJ-University Behavioral Health Care, UMDNJ Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, the Central NJ Maternal and Child Health Consortium, Gateway Maternal & Child Health Consor-

tium, HIP Health Plan, and the Mid-State Health Advisory Corporation.

A County Advisory Council will be established with community representation from Local Assessment Committees throughout the county. These groups will be presented with the results of the telephone survey, as well as the results of key informant interviews and focus groups, in order to assist with the prioritization of recommendations to improve health within the county.

Lifeguards needed

NEWARK—If you are looking for worthwhile and rewarding summer employment, the City of Newark's Division of Recreation and Cultural Affairs (DO RCA) has just the thing for you! Since the DO RCA office wants the 1996 swim season to be safe and fun, the agency is seeking certified lifeguards to safeguard City pools, throughout the summer months.

All qualified applicants must bring identification and their certification papers when applying.

DO RCA officials said. In addition, candidates must have current certifications in First Aid and Safety, CPR for the Professional Rescuer and Lifeguard Training in order to be considered.

Lifeguards will be needed to man the six municipal pools, organizers noted. The work schedule is five days per week and 8 hours per day. Applications are available in the DO RCA office, Room B-23, City Hall.

Restoring fathers

Continued from page 1

on the challenge of living in the absence of tobacco, alcohol, other drug abusive behavior, sex outside of marriage, obesity or other high-risk tendencies that plague black American communities.

Fathers receive intense non-traditional one-on-one support, group support, family outreach, fathering skills, health and nutrition information, medical and housing referrals, as well as educational and career guidance. Most services are provided in the home of the father, permitting his issues to be managed at the core, which establishes quality at the source.

Despite its unorthodox approach, a 1993 reactive evaluation of the Cleveland program and services, conducted by Drs. G. Regina Nixon and Anthony B.O. King of Case Western Reserve University, documented the positive impact the institute has had on its participants. Findings included:

- 62 percent are employed full time;
- 11 percent are employed part-time.

Since institute outreach specialists lead by example, modeling rather than demanding changes, they are able to help bring about a change in the attitude of the father. Moreover, enough cannot be said about the fact that the institute does not undermine the traditional two-parent family as past programs have. In fact, the institute is helping restore the two-parent family.

During the course of the past two years, letters and calls from more than 60 cities and seven countries, including Japan and some in Africa, have requested that the service be

expanded to their locations. Based on a thorough evaluation of the requests, and with encouragement from both local and national opinion leaders, foundations and corporations, the institute is now beginning national expansion to five additional cities: Atlanta, Milwaukee, Nashville, San Diego, and Yonkers.

In the targeted areas for each site, the institute will go door-to-door to over 15,000 households. During that period of time, 1,000 fathers will establish paternity and some 300 will receive intensive services. The Institute For Responsible Fatherhood and Family Revitalization is paying the way for a better America.

Men Have Babies Too

Celebrating Father's Day and responsible fatherhood

PINEBROOK—Many people think that a man's contribution to making babies begins and ends at the moment of conception, but there is increasing evidence that suggests fathers have a larger impact on the health of their unborn babies.

This Father's Day, the March of Dimes Birth Defects Foundation is celebrating the changing role of fathers-to-be and responsible fatherhood by encouraging new fathers and fathers-to-be to get a copy of the free educational brochures, *Men Have Babies Too* and *Dad, It's Your Baby Too*.

Researchers now suspect that a father's lifestyle behaviors can impact the health of his unborn baby. For example, an expectant father who smokes, drinks alcohol, uses drugs or

causes stress for his pregnant partner could have a negative impact on the unborn baby. Both booklets offer tips to men on positive steps they can take to help their pregnant partners have healthier babies.

The brochures also answer questions that men commonly ask, such as: "How can I feel more connected, more of a partner in the birth process?" Fathers-to-be are taking a more active and supporting role in their partner's pregnancy, and they can be a positive influence on their partners during pregnancy and on the subsequent health of their babies.

Call the March of Dimes New Jersey Chapter at 201-882-0700 to request a free brochure or a *Think Ahead!* pre-pregnancy planning packet.

Scholarships

Continued from page 3

Cochrane that he would make a \$50,000 contribution to the establishment of a Project Excellence fund. Most services are provided in the home of the father, permitting his issues to be managed at the core, which establishes quality at the source.

Other donors to Project Excellence included: Nissan Motor Corporation, NationsBank, The Washington Post, The Freedom Forum Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation Gannett Foundation, The Morris & Gwendolyn Cafritz

Foundation, Ann & Don Brown, Swidler & Berlin, and Ken Boxley.

"The corporate and foundation support tells me that Americans of all races understand that the United States needs the full development of black brain power," said Rowan. "The generosity of such individuals such as Steve Newby has convinced me that in every major city in America, Project Excellence could be replicated to the good of this nation."

Pastors' fast

Continued from page 3

with the policy of death toward Cuba. I refuse to be complicit. I would rather give my life in this simplest act of kindness, rather than lose my soul," he said.

The donated computers will be used to help build an on-line medical information network for the 15-

land nation, which already boasts a health care system that is considered a "model" by health professionals. The exemplary medical system may be one reason why U.S. officials have been so inflexible, according to one health source.

The march began at the Arlington Memorial Bridge and culminated in a rally at the Lincoln Memorial.

Standing for children

Continued from page 1

Cooper, the only elected official to speak, representing the United States Conference of Mayors as chairman for their Health and Human Services division, said, "This is great, anyone in America that could be against children's issues, something is wrong with them. It's not just about government, it's about every member of the community—business leaders, religious leaders, neighborhood leaders, families and individuals. We all must be asking 'What are we doing for children? Is it enough? Can we do more?'"

New Jersey was well represented. Evelyn Lovett representing the Plainfield Even Start literacy program of the Interfaith Council said, "We came down with six buses from Plainfield to support the ideals that no child be left behind."

The march began at the Arlington Memorial Bridge and culminated in a rally at the Lincoln Memorial.

At the tented midway area of the march several hundred health, education, social and advocacy group representatives provided information to participants.

Young attendees raised their voices at the speakout on the youth message stage.

Clearly Tyronne, famous actress and one of many celebrities present said, "When one stands, we are just one, we magnify each other and give strength to each other."

Wright Edelman said, "Tomorrow 300 college students will begin training at the CDF Farm, and they will go out into over 100 communities to work and will be standing up in every state in the nation. We will be in every church in September and October, and we will be there for the elections in November. These over 3,700 organizations will continue to stand for children."

Remembering

Continued from page 1

home." A tribute to the late Robert Walden was made with a proclamation in his honor presented to his widow.

Walden had been the post commander for 15 years with Lewis L. Lackland Post V.F.W.#7923. He served in the United States Army from October 3, 1942 to October

17, 1945 as Sergeant of the 15th. Following the Memorial Day ceremony there was a traditional laying of the wreath in front of City Hall.

"One Year and Counting"

PLAINFIELD—The Preschool/Kinderergarten Program at the Black United Fund Community Center Complex will be celebrating its one year anniversary he preschool opened its doors on June 19, 1995 with six (6) children and currently has sixty-five children enrolled. Frances Jones, Preschool Director, said we've been celebrating our birthday at our preschool and kindergarten graduation on Friday, June 14, 1996 at 10 a.m.

Looking back over the year, I am proud of where we have come from in such a short time said Mrs. Jones. After an 11 year successful run as the Director of the Urban League of Essex County Preschool, Frances Jones took the challenge of a start up organization. We could not have done it without her said BU/FHHS President Armistead Johnson. In her short time with us she has developed a quality program which features swimming les-

sons and computer instructions, Johnson continued.

The BU/FHHS Preschool currently has openings for our summer program and staff is available to answer questions and give tours Monday through Friday. In the coming year we will continue to enhance our program and provide one of the best programs (for your money) at the BU/F Community Complex, concludes Mrs. Jones.

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